**World History**

**Student Responses**

**On religion in general…**

1. “…Even though there are so many similarities [among the religions], the small differences are really important…if there was only one religion, people might disagree about those little differences and it could cause mayhem.”
2. “Each religion teaches its own values and morals.”
3. “Most religions come from other religions and always switch up a few things to make it ‘their own.’”
4. “With the creation of religion comes the building up on preexisting religions.”
5. “Most of the religions believe in God but have different names for it.”
6. “Having different religions shows that the human race was and is evolving.”

**On ‘why there are so many different religions’…**

1. “I think the world was very split up which made regions isolated so these regions wanted and in some cases needed a belief system that they could follow. Once the world began to connect culturally in many different places, religions began to expand and people began converting to new religions.”
2. “Everyone has something that they want to believe in and that causes different religions and philosophies to be created.”
3. “The religions of era 1 were spread out throughout Europe and Asia. This is why there were so many different religions. The minimal transportation allowed the religions to conflict each other but not be a major problem.”
4. “There are many belief systems because at this time, there were less interactions between the different places so they didn’t transfer ideas as often…. Also, religion is hard to prove right or wrong, so people came up with a lot of different possibilities so everybody can choose their own religion to follow.”
5. “There are so many different religions…because every part of the world has different cultures and beliefs.”
6. “One of the reasons [for so many different belief systems] is the fact that people who live in different parts of the world had different parts of life that they wanted to explain. For example, Christians may want to know how the Mediterranean Sea was formed, while Hindus may be concerned with their part of the world.”
7. “There are so many belief systems…because of the expansion of all the empires and the increased trade.”
8. “There are so many different religions because everyone wants to be different and by everyone I mean all of the leaders in the world…some people might use religion or philosophy as an excuse to gain power.”